

DATE: January 22, 2018
TO: RMC Governing Board
FROM: Mark Stanley, Executive Officer
SUBJECT: Item 8A: Executive Officer's Report- Legislation and Initiatives

For full text and history of bills and initiatives, visit these web sites:

Federal Bills: <https://www.congress.gov>
State Bills: <http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/>

STATE LEGISLATION **Current as of 1/11/18**

The following is the status of legislative bills that have been introduced in the current session by Senate and Assembly potentially of interest to the RMC. Bills can be tracked on the legislative website: <http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/> The Senate and Assembly finalized all bills as of **September 15, 2017**. The following were signed or vetoed by the Governor as of October 15, 2017.

Legislative Update

For full text and history of bills and initiatives, visit these web sites:

Federal Bills: <https://www.congress.gov>
State Bills: <http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/>

PARKS AND WATER

SB 5 (DeLeon, Kevin D) California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access for All Act 2018 **Introduced:** 12/5/2016, **Last Amended Date:** 9/10/2017, **Status:** AB 18 merged with SB 5. SB 5 signed by the Governor and now on the June 2018 primary ballot

Summary: An act to add Division 45 (commencing with Section 80000) to the Public Resources Code, relating to a drought, water, parks, climate, coastal protection, and outdoor access for all program, by providing the funds necessary therefor through an election for the issuance and sale of bonds of the State of California and for the handling and disposition of those funds, and declaring the urgency thereof, to take effect immediately. This bill would enact the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018, which, if approved by the voters, would authorize the issuance of bonds in an amount of **\$4,100,000,000** pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law to finance a drought, water, parks, climate, coastal protection, and outdoor access for all program. The bill would, each fiscal year that principal or interest on bonds issued and sold for the program are and payable, appropriate \$10,000,000 from the General Fund to the Department of Parks and Recreation for the purpose of paying costs associated with operating and maintaining certain park projects funded by the program. This bill would also provide for the submission of these provisions to the

voters at the June 5, 2018, statewide primary direct election. This bill would declare that it is to take effect immediately as an urgency statute.

SB 5 (DE LEÓN) Park Bond

	SB 5 (De León)
AB 31 Park Poor Communities Program	\$725 Million
Per Capita	\$215 Million
County/Regional Program	\$30 Million
Self-Help Block Grants for Local Taxes	\$40 Million
Rural Program	\$25 Million
Trails	\$30 Million
State Parks (Fairs Included)	\$218 Million
Conservancies (Including WCB & Other)	\$767 Million
River Parkway Program	\$162 Million
Oceans and Coastal Protection	\$175 Million
Miscellaneous (including Cal Fire, WCB Conservation, Climate Resiliency, CCC, and Natural Resources Agency)	\$443 Million
Clean Drinking Water and Drought Preparedness	\$250 Million
Groundwater Sustainability	\$80 Million
Flood Protection	\$550 Million
Coastal Low-cost Accommodations	Captured in State Parks and State Coastal Conservancy
Regional Sustainability: Water	\$290 Million
TOTAL BOND COST	\$4.1 Billion

AB 1180 (Holden D) Los Angeles County Flood Control District: taxes, fees, and charges.

Introduced: 2/17/2017, **Last Amended Date:** 8/21/2017, **Status:** Signed by the Governor

Summary: Would authorize the Los Angeles County Flood Control District to levy a tax, in compliance with the applicable provisions of Article XIIIC of the California Constitution, or impose a fee or charge, in compliance with the applicable provisions of Article XIID of the California Constitution, to pay the costs and expenses of carrying out projects and programs to increase stormwater capture and reduce stormwater and urban runoff pollution in the district, and would specify that projects funded by the revenues from the tax, fee, or charge may include

projects providing multiple benefits that increase water supply, improve water quality, and, where appropriate, provide community enhancements, as prescribed.

AB 1483 (Daly D) Housing-Related Parks Program

Introduced: 2/17/2017, **Last Amended Date:** 3/28/2017, **Status:** Suspense File

Summary: Existing law establishes the Housing-Related Parks Program, administered by the Department of Housing and Community Development, which provides grants for the creation, development, or rehabilitation of park and recreation facilities to cities, counties, and cities and counties based on the issuance of building permits for new housing units, or housing units substantially rehabilitated, acquired, or preserved with committed assistance from the city, county, or city and county, that are affordable to very low or low-income households. This bill would appropriate \$50,000,000 from the General Fund to the Urban-Suburban-and-Rural Parks Account for these purposes.

AB 1558 (Garcia, Cristina D) Los Angeles River: River Ranger Program

Introduced: 2/17/2017, **Last Amended Date:** 3/28/2017, **Status:** Signed by the Governor

Summary: This bill would require the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy and the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy to collaborate with the Department of Parks and Recreation, the California Conservation Corps, and the State Lands Commission to develop a river ranger program to provide a network of river rangers who assist the public at sites along the Los Angeles River and its tributaries, as prescribed. The bill would require the conservancies, no later than June 30, 2018, to develop a plan for the design and implementation of the program, containing specified components and information, and to provide a copy of the completed plan to certain legislative committees by that date.

SB 693 (Mendoza D) Lower San Gabriel River Recreation and Park District

Introduced: 2/17/2017, **Last Amended Date:** 7/3/2017, **Status:** Signed by the Governor

Summary: Would specifically authorize the establishment of the Lower San Gabriel River Recreation and Park District, by petition or resolution submitted to the Los Angeles County Local Agency Formation Commission before January 1, 2020, subject to specified existing laws governing recreation and park districts, including their formation, except as provided. The bill would authorize specified city councils and the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors to appoint the initial board of directors of the district.

SB 714 (Newman D) State Coastal Conservancy: West Coyote Hills Conservancy Program

Introduced: 2/17/2017, **Last Amended Date:** 9/12/2017, **Status:** Suspense File

Summary: Would, until January 1, 2028, establish the West Coyote Hills Conservancy Program, to be administered by the State Coastal Conservancy and to undertake projects and award grants in the West Coyote Hills area, as described, for purposes relating to improvement of public access, and the protection, restoration, and enhancement of natural resources in the area. This bill would prescribe the duties of the conservancy with regards to the implementation and administration of the program.

AB 466 (Bocanegra D) Upper Los Angeles River and Tributaries Working Group**Introduced:** 2/13/2017, **Last Amended Date:** 9/1/2017, **Status:** Signed by the Governor

Summary: This bill would establish within the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy the Upper Los Angeles River and Tributaries Working Group. Would require the Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency, in consultation with the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, and the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and the City of Los Angeles to the extent they wish to consult, to consider requests from specified local agency representatives to participate in the working group. Requires by March 1, 2019, the working group to develop, through watershed-based planning methods and community engagement, a revitalization plan to address the needs of the Upper Los Angeles River and its tributaries, and the communities through which they pass, and to include watershed education programs. The bill would require the conservancy to provide any necessary staffing to assist the working group. The working group will be required to submit the revitalization plan to the conservancy for approval. Requires the revitalization plan to be considered amendments to the watershed and open space plan for the San Gabriel and Los Angeles Rivers upon adoption by the conservancy and would require the conservancy to submit the plan to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and the Los Angeles City Council for their consideration.

AB 1235 (Daly D) Santa Ana River Conservancy Program**Introduced:** 2/17/2017, **Last Amended Date:** 3/28/2017, **Status:** Suspense File

Summary: Current law establishes the State Coastal Conservancy with prescribed powers and responsibilities for implementing and administering various programs intended to preserve, protect, and restore the state's coastal areas. Current law also establishes the Santa Ana River Conservancy Program, to be administered by the conservancy, for purposes related to the implementation of projects to restore, preserve, and enhance specified lands in the Santa Ana River region, as defined. This bill would appropriate the sum of \$20,000,000 from the General Fund to the conservancy to be expended for the purposes of this program.

CLIMATE CHANGE**SB-263 Leyva (S) Climate Assistance Centers****Introduced:** 02/08/17, **Last Amended Date:** 5/3/2017, **Status:** Suspense File

Summary: Existing law creates the Transformative Climate Communities Program, which is administered by the Strategic Growth Council. Existing law requires the council to award competitive grants to specified eligible entities for the development and implementation of neighborhood-level transformative climate community plans that include greenhouse gas emissions reduction projects that provide local economic, environmental, and health benefits to disadvantaged communities, as defined.

The California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 designates the State Air Resources Board as the state agency charged with monitoring and regulating sources of emissions of greenhouse gases. The act authorizes the state board to include the use of market-based compliance mechanisms. Existing law requires all moneys, except for fines and penalties, collected by the state board as part of a market-based compliance mechanism to be deposited in the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund and to be available upon appropriation.

This bill would require the council to establish no less than 10 regional climate assistance centers, equitably distributed across urban and rural areas of the state, to build the capacity of local community organizations, municipalities, and small businesses from disadvantaged communities to participate in state climate investment programs, as specified. Funds would be allocated through the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund to community based and nonprofit organizations to engage with climate assistance centers and conduct outreach in disadvantaged communities, as specified. The bill would require the council and the state board to make a specified report to the Legislature.

AB 1433 (Wood D) Natural and Working Lands: Unified Program Application and Process

Introduced: 2/17/2017, **Last Amended Date:** 7/18/2017, **Status:** Now a 2-Year Bill

Summary: Would require the Strategic Growth Council, on or before April 1, 2018, to establish and convene an interagency taskforce consisting of representatives from various state agencies who are knowledgeable in programs for natural or working lands to develop a common application form and process for those programs. Requires the task force, on or before January 1, 2019, to develop and implement the common application form and process for those programs.

AB 1530 (Gonzalez Fletcher D) Urban forestry

Introduced: 2/17/2017, **Last Amended Date:** 9/1/2017, **Status:** Signed by the Governor

Summary: The California Urban Forestry Act of 1978 has as a stated purpose the promotion of the use of urban forest resources for purposes of increasing integrated projects with multiple benefits in urban communities. This bill would provide that the purpose of the act is also to promote policies and incentives that advance improved maintenance of urban forest canopy to optimize multiple benefits, among other purposes. This bill contains other related provisions and other current laws.

LA COUNTY UPDATE

Los Angeles County Legislation approved by the voters in November 2016 potentially of interest to the RMC.

MEASURE A: Safe, Clean Neighborhood Parks, Open Space, Beaches, Rivers Protection, and Water Conservation Measure. To replace expiring local funding for safe, clean neighborhood/ city/ county parks; increase safe playgrounds, reduce gang activity; keep neighborhood recreation/ senior centers, drinking water safe; protect beaches, rivers, water resources, remaining natural areas/ open space; levy of 1.5 cents annually per square foot of improved property in Los Angeles County, with bond authority, requiring citizen oversight, independent audits, and funds used locally.

This measure was overwhelmingly approved by the required 2/3 supermajority of votes on November 8, 2016 by 73.48%, or 1,568,781 votes.

MEASURE M: Los Angeles County Sales Tax

To improve freeway traffic flow/safety; repair potholes/sidewalks; repave local streets; earthquake retrofit bridges; synchronize signals; keep senior/disabled/student fares affordable; expand rail/subway/bus systems; improve job/school/airport connections; and create jobs; shall voters authorize a Los Angeles County Traffic Improvement Plan through a ½ ¢ sales tax and continue the existing ½ ¢ traffic relief tax until voters decide to end it, with independent audits/oversight and funds controlled locally?

Approval of Measure M ("Measure") would adopt an ordinance known as the Los Angeles County Traffic Improvement Plan ("Ordinance") proposed by the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority ("Metro"), which placed this Measure on the ballot by resolution dated June 23, 2016. The Ordinance would impose a retail transactions and use tax ("Sales Tax") at the rate of one-half of one percent (.5%) within Los Angeles County ("County"), beginning on the first day of the first calendar quarter commencing not less than 180 days after adoption of the ordinance. The Sales Tax will increase to one percent (1%) on July 1, 2039, when the Measure R tax of one-half of one percent (.5%) tax imposed by Metro by Ordinance number 08-01 expires. The Sales Tax is in addition to any other taxes authorized by law. The Sales Tax has no expiration date.

This measure was overwhelmingly approved by the required 2/3 supermajority of votes on November 8, 2016 by 69.79% of votes, or 1,594,427 voters that voted yes.

FEDERAL LEGISLATION CURRENT AS OF 7/20/17

Interior Department Secretary Ryan Zinke has provided details his vision for the future of the agency. In a videotaped message last week, Zinke said plans call for dividing the country into 13 administrative regions based on the ecosystem and watersheds. Under the concept, Interior will manage these regions jointly with fewer decisions coming from individual bureaus or Interior sub-agencies. Zinke said certain administrative functions like budget, personnel, and legal will see few changes.

More than three-fourths of the National Park Service advisory board has quit over being "ignored" by Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke and the issue of climate change, according to a former governor who was part of the panel.

The resignations followed the members being repeatedly ignored by Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke and the Trump administration's agenda, according to a letter of resignation delivered to Zinke. Zinke has not met with the board despite several requests and invitations to do so, the letter read.

A number of requests to engage with Zinke "have been ignored and the matters on which we wanted to brief the new department team are clearly not part of the agenda," the resignation letter read.